

Consolidated School to continue to serve the educational needs of the community. In 1938 the school was renamed John McEachern Schools, providing educational opportunities to students from first through eleventh grade.

In 1980, McEachern became a comprehensive high school, and is widely recognized as one of the very top high schools in the entire state of Georgia. Enrollment now approaches 3,000 students. The presence of Principal Williams on campus of McEachern High School will be greatly missed. His dedication and commitment to educating the young people of his community has made a lasting impression on two decades of Cobb citizens. We will miss him greatly and wish him the best as he moves into this new phase of his life.

CONGRATULATING BRITTANY  
HEATH OF THE 19TH DISTRICT  
OF TEXAS

**HON. LARRY COMBEST**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 3, 2000*

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, today, I congratulate a young lady from the 19th District of Texas who has earned national recognition for her outstanding volunteer service. Miss Brittany Heath, a 13-year-old student from Lubbock, has been named one of Texas' top two youth volunteers for the year 2000 in The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, a national initiative honoring young people for exemplary acts of service.

Brittany, an eighth grade student at Evans Junior High School, initiated a chapter of "Suitcase for Kids" which collects, cleans, and distributes used suitcases to children in foster care. During her program's first year, more than 400 suitcases were given to children within the community. The Lubbock Children's Protective Services program and the Community Partnership Program Sponsored by Brittany by providing a storage facility for donations. Brittany set up a voice mailbox for donor calls, designed business cards, composed a brochure, and contacted the local newspaper. During the first two days of operation, more than 100 messages were received from individuals offering donations and assistance. Community support has been overwhelming, and Brittany plans to expand "Suitcases for Kids" to other counties around Luddock. She says as long as children are in foster care, there will be a need for this program.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards was created by The Prudential Insurance Company of America in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals in 1995 to encourage youth volunteers and emphasize the importance and value of their contributions. Brittany was nominated by Evans Junior High School and selected from more than 20,000 high school and middle school students. She has received \$1,000, an engraved silver medallion, and an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. This program is the nation's largest youth recognition effort based solely on community service.

At a time when our nation has seen a lack of community involvement from our youth and violence in our schools, it is good to be reminded that many young people are actively contributing to our society and working to

make a difference where they live. We can learn a great deal from Brittany's exceptional act of volunteerism. We should all reflect upon how we, as individuals, can work together in our own communities to improve the lives of others and establish a brighter tomorrow.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. DONNA  
OSBORN

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 3, 2000*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Donna Osborn, who has worked in my office as an Albert Einstein fellow since July 1999. The Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship Program offers elementary and secondary teachers with demonstrated excellence in teaching an opportunity to serve in the national public policy arena.

Since Donna's arrival in my office, she has handled all education issues—elementary, secondary, and higher education—as well as children's issues. She researches legislation, updates me on changing information, and answers constituent mail on these topics. Donna has also been invaluable in other areas of my office. I can guarantee you that she now knows more about steel manufacturing and bulletproof vests than she ever imagined she would. She is the first person to volunteer for any task, and greets every visitor with a warm welcome. Her enthusiasm is contagious.

Donna has not been a passive member of my staff, rather she has taken initiative and vigorously pursued projects that she believed would be valuable to my constituents. First, she organized and planned a grants workshop for all of the schools in Indiana's First Congressional District. Several Einstein Fellows and other individuals from Washington and Indiana provided educators with information on obtaining grants and other educational opportunities for students. She also reached out to our community, working with local businesses and organizations to include them in the event, and securing their place as stakeholders in the education of our children. This workshop was a very successful event, and would not have been possible without Donna's initiative and hard work.

Donna was also integral to the implementation of the Missing Child Alert Plan in Indiana's First Congressional District. The Missing Child Alert Plan gives detailed information about a missing child and the suspected abductor utilizing a joint police-media effort to alert the public when a child has been abducted. Donna worked closely with my staff and local police departments and media outlets, to get this program off to a successful start. The Missing Child Alert Plan has been successful in recovering missing children in other areas of the country. Thanks to Donna's hard work, Northwest Indiana is one of only 11 areas of the country with such a program. Activating the alert often receives considerable press attention, which increases the reach of the emergency announcement—enlisting hundreds of thousands of people in their search parties. Leads usually pour into police departments within hours. In addition to the Missing Child Alert Program, Donna saw to it that a

picture of a missing child from the First Congressional District appears on each of my office envelopes. The first set features five children, one each from Gary and Hebron, and three from Hammond.

The zeal that Donna brought to my office must be even more apparent to her classroom. Donna has taught mathematics in Lafayette School Corporation in Lafayette, Indiana since 1972, and is currently a mathematics teacher at Jefferson High School. She is a graduate from Anderson College, with a degree in mathematics. Her master's degree is from Purdue University. She was a Christa McAuliffe fellow in 1998 and a Tandy scholar in 1997. She won the Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching of Mathematics in 1996. She taught school in Billerica, England on a Fulbright scholarship in 1979–1980; at the International School of Paris in Paris, France in 1991–1992; and at the Hong Kong International School in the summer of 1997.

She served as the President of the Lafayette Education Association Board of the Indiana Council for the Teaching of Mathematics in 1996–1997, and on the Mathematics Department Advisory Council (Purdue, West Lafayette). Donna has received the Golden Apple award from the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, and was recognized as a Distinguished Alumnus by the Purdue University-School of Science.

Donna has been a wonderful addition to my office, and I want to express my appreciation and gratitude for all of her hard work. She has touched the lives of countless young people throughout Indiana, the United States, and the world. Donna's passion for education and children, along with her indescribable enthusiasm, will surely be missed in my office.

TRIBUTE TO GIRL SCOUT GOLD  
AWARD RECIPIENTS—2000

**HON. BERNARD SANDERS**

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 3, 2000*

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to salute six outstanding young women who are being presented with the Girl Scout Gold Award by the Vermont Girl Scout Council. They are:

Kellie Miner, 619 Basin Harbor Road, Vergennes, VT 05491, Cassie Charlebois, PO Box 323, Vergennes, VT 05491, Catherine McEnerney, 39 Boothwoods, Vergennes, VT 05491, Linnea Oosterman, 1074 Slatterly Road, Vergennes, VT 05491, Stephanie Leonard, 201 Sunset Drive, Morrisville, VT 05661, Rebecca Robare, 6 Giorgetti Blvd., Rutland, VT 05701.

They are being honored on May 16, 2000 for earning the highest achievement in U.S. Girl Scouting.

The Girl Scout Gold Award symbolizes outstanding accomplishments in the areas of leadership, community service, career planning and personal development. The award can be earned by girls aged 14–17, or in grades 9–12. To receive the award, these Girl Scouts first earned four interest project patches, the Career Exploration Pin, the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award and the Senior Girl Scout Challenge as well as designing and implementing a Girl Scout Gold Award project to